The Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission



<u>The Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission</u> (THGAAC) was established by the Legislature in 2021 as a nine-member Advisory Commission to the Texas Historical Commission. Our mission is to combat and confront hatred, prejudice, and indifference by educating all Texans about the Holocaust and other genocides in an effort to dismantle antisemitism and prevent future atrocities.

What does the Commission do?

Commissioners and staff members connect with thousands of Texans across the state each year by promoting Holocaust education, raising awareness about genocide, and educating Texans. They:

- Partner with community organizations and museums on programs, events, and outreach.
- Support schools with resources for Holocaust Remembrance Week and other curriculum needs.
- **Provide opportunities for Texans** to volunteer, host or speak at events, or become a Friend of the THGAAC.
- Support public officials to call out hate, fight for policies that combat antisemitism, and attend or speak at community events.
- Provide grants to Texas nonprofits that offer services or programs related to or in support of THGAAC's mission.

Study on Antisemitism and Shaping State Policy

THGAAC is required by law to submit a <u>Study on Antisemitism</u> in Texas to state leaders every two years, including recommendations for new laws and policies.

The first study, submitted in December 2022, presented data and case studies demonstrating that antisemitic incidents have grown more frequent and more extreme. This reflects a national and global trend as hate now spreads more easily than ever through social media.

The study also included a series of recommendations to fight hate and raise awareness statewide. In direct response, the Texas Legislature in 2023 took multiple bipartisan steps to fight hate, including:

- Established a \$2 million grant program for religious organizations, schools, and community centers to harden their security infrastructures. This will complement an existing federal program so Jewish organizations and other groups are better prepared for attacks.
- **Prohibited public colleges or universities** from implementing boycotts of study abroad or research programs in Israel or other nations. This ban counters a <u>global anti-Israel movement</u>, often fueled by antisemitism, that has taken root at colleges.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

• Apply for THGAAC Education Grants • Attend or volunteer at local events • Become a Friend of the THGAAC